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Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-third session
Open-ended Working Group on the Elaboration of a Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
1–12 March 1999
Agenda item 6
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, including the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention

Draft report of the Open-ended Working Group

Addendum

Chairperson: Ms. Aloisia **Wörgetter** (Austria)

1. At the 2nd meeting, on 11 March 1999, interpretative statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Ghana (on behalf of Botswana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe), the Philippines, Indonesia, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, Egypt, New Zealand, Algeria, Canada, Senegal, Cameroon, Germany (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and the associated country Cyprus as well as the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) country Switzerland and the EFTA countries members of the European Economic Area (EEA), Iceland and Liechtenstein), Mali, Austria, Jordan, Denmark (on behalf of the Nordic countries) and Morocco.

2. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women.

3. Also at the 2nd meeting, a statement was made by the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women.

4. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the representatives of a number of non-governmental organizations.

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5. At the 3rd meeting, on 11 March, interpretative statements were made by the representatives of the Netherlands, Costa Rica (on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama, Peru and Venezuela), India, Tunisia, Italy, Cuba, Israel, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of Sweden).

6. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the representatives of Spain and Mexico.

7. Also at the 3rd meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in her capacity as a resource person in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/227 of 21 July 1997.

8. At the same meeting, a statement was made by a representative of a non-governmental organization.

Action taken by the Working Group

Draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

9. At the 2nd meeting, on 11 March, the Working Group had before it the text of the revised draft optional protocol (E/CN.6/1999/WG/L.2), submitted by the Chairperson on the basis of informal consultations held on the compilation text contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-second session (E/1998/27), and the text of a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1999/WG/L.3) entitled "Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women", submitted by the Chairperson on the basis of informal consultations.

10. At the same meeting, the Working Group adopted the draft optional protocol and its enabling resolution, and recommended their submission to the Commission on the Status of Women for consideration.

11. At the 3rd meeting, on 11 March, the Working Group adopted its draft report (E/CN.6/1999/WG/L.1). It agreed that a compilation of the interpretative statements made after the adoption of the draft optional protocol and its enabling resolution would form part of its report.